

## **THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 JUNE 2015, AT THE OFFICES OF THE WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL, 388 MAIN SOUTH ROAD, GREYMOUTH, COMMENCING AT 10.30 A.M.**

#### **PRESENT:**

P. Ewen (Chairman), A. Robb, A. Birchfield, P. McDonnell, T. Archer, N. Clementson, S. Challenger, J. Douglas, F. Tumahai

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

C. Ingle (Chief Executive Officer), M. Meehan (Planning & Environmental Manager), R. Mallinson (Corporate Services Manager), J. Adams (Consents & Compliance Manager), T. Jellyman (Minutes Clerk)

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies.

#### **2. PUBLIC FORUM**

There was no public forum.

#### **3. MINUTES**

**Moved** (Archer / Robb) *that the minutes of the previous Resource Management Committee meeting dated 12 May 2015, be confirmed as correct.*

*Carried*

#### **Matters Arising**

Cr McDonnell asked M. Meehan if there has been an update from the Queen's Counsel regarding wetlands case. M. Meehan stated that he has not heard anything.

Cr Ewen asked J. Adams for an update on the work being done on the Waiuta / Alexander consent issue regarding the contaminated land. J. Adams advised that CRL and DoC and working on how to treat the contaminated land. He advised that Dr James Pope from CRL is currently putting a report together.

#### **4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cr Ewen reported that it has been a quiet month. He assisted with the opening of two tenders and attended the special meetings relating to the Long Term Plan.

**Moved** (Ewen / Archer)

*Carried*

#### **5. REPORTS**

##### **5.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP**

##### **5.1.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT MANAGERS REPORT**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that he has received enquiries from two Schedule 2 wetland owners about boundaries on their properties. M. Meehan advised that staff are investigating these enquiries and a workshop will now be arranged for next month instead of this month.

M. Meehan advised that pre-consultation feedback for the Coastal Plan Review has been received from the district councils, Iwi and DoC, and a third hui was held yesterday, in Hokitika. He advised that a lot of progress has been made, a workshop with the RMC committee will be held shortly.

M. Meehan reported that further surveillance work on Bristle Grass has been completed with the help from staff from Environment Canterbury. He advised that spray work on 86 sites through the Buller Gorge has been done with assistance from NZTA.

Cr Archer asked M. Meehan if there are rules in place with regard to work in council owned quarries, in view of the recent accident in a quarry in North Canterbury. M. Meehan stated that health and safety is treated very seriously in all council quarries with health and safety plans in place, and regular meetings with contractors are held to ensure they adhere to all healthy and safety requirements. M. Meehan advised that a health and safety review has just been completed with approved contractors who work for Council in rating districts. He advised that the quarry contract has finished with the current quarry contractor, Westland Contractors Ltd, and he is about to re-tender this work. As part of the re-tender process, health and safety requirements are a considerable attribute on the tender process. M. Meehan stated that permits are required for anyone who sets foot in a quarry, even just to simply take rock, and not only for blasting.

Extensive discussion took place on Bristle Grass. M. Meehan answered various questions from councillors and advised that Council's Biosecurity Officer is liaising with NZTA's mowing contractor and staff from Ecan to work through this issue to monitor what is happening with this. M. Meehan stated that the only cost has been for his staff time, Ecan have donated their time and all the chemicals have been supplied by NZTA.

**Moved** (Clementson / Robb) *that the report is received.*

*Carried*

### **5.1.2 REEFTON AIR QUALITY SUMMARY**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that at the time of writing this report there has been one exceedance of the NES for air quality in Reefton. He advised that the site where the air quality machine is located is going to be sold and an alternative site has been found at the Reefton Area School. M. Meehan advised that agreements are in place with the school and the move will be made after this winter. M. Meehan reported that he has been keeping in contact with MfE regarding OekoTubes and air quality issues in Reefton in order to seek funding for cost benefit analysis work. MfE advised M. Meehan recently that they will be doing cost benefit analysis work and looking at options for reducing PM<sub>10</sub> emissions and Reefton may be used as a case study. M. Meehan advised that the Minister has been briefed about potential changes to the NES for air quality following the PCE report into air quality and he is currently considering this, but no decisions have been made yet.

**Moved** (Archer / Challenger) *that the report is received.*

*Carried*

### **5.1.3 HYDROLOGY AND FLOOD WARNING UPDATE**

M. Meehan spoke to this report. He advised that \$190,000 has been received from MfE towards the development of tools to assist with water quantity allocation, particularly in the Grey Valley catchment. M. Meehan advised that this funding will go towards NIWA developing tools that will be useful not just in our region but around the country. He stated that this will be useful software that can be used with the community and stakeholders to be able to quite clearly show what the impacts are for water allocation. M. Meehan advised that a stakeholder meeting was held on 21 May with NIWA presenting these tools.

M. Meehan advised that during a recent flood event at the beginning of May, the Waiho River got quite high and went over 9 metres which has not happened over the past year or so. Cr Challenger stated that he has been keeping an eye on Council's webpage for the Waiho River and he noticed that since this flood event the average water level has dropped quite a bit. Cr Challenger wondered if this higher flow scoured out gravel in the river. M. Meehan noted from his visit last week, that the river is now heading towards the north and the south side has built up with gravel near the hotel.

**Moved** (Archer / Robb) *that the report is received.*

*Carried*

**5.1.4 PROPOSED REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT**

M. Meehan spoke to this report and advised that the RPS was notified on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, submissions closed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May. He advised that five late submissions have been received, staff are currently going through the submissions and they will produce a summary of submissions report and then a workshop with councillors will be arranged for a couple of months' time.

**Moved** (Archer / McDonnell)

- 1. *That Council receives this report.*
- 2. *That Council accepts the late submissions that have been received.*

*Carried*

**5.2.1 CONSENTS MONTHLY REPORT**

J. Adams spoke to this report. He advised that 16 non notified resource consents were granted, four changes to consent conditions were granted and one limited notified resource consent was granted.

**Moved** (Robb / Clementson) *that the June 2015 report of the Consents Group be received.*

*Carried*

**5.2.1 COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT**

J. Adams spoke to this report and advised that 62 site visits were made during the reporting period. He reported that 13 of the visits were non-compliant but all fairly minor. J. Adams reported that six complaints were received during the reporting period with two investigated but unsubstantiated. J. Adams advised that as a result one infringement notice, and two abatement notices were issued. J. Adams reported that six work programmes were received during the reporting period and all have now been processed. Two bonds were also received during the reporting period. J. Adams answered various questions from councillors.

**Moved** (Archer / Birchfield) *that the June 2015 report of the Compliance Group be received.*

*Carried*

**6.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

F. Tumahai stated that on behalf of Makaawhio and Ngati Waewae, they wished to thank staff and council for the engagement process for the RPS and the Coastal Plan. He stated that the process has been very successful, he passed his thanks onto M. Meehan, J. Adams and L. Sadler.

Cr Birchfield requested that the response from Westroads relating to Mr Harry Cox's complaint be circulated to councillors.

The meeting closed at 10.56 a.m.

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Chairman

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Date